

MILSTON & BRIGMERSTON SOCIAL FUND MEETING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTES

Wednesday 24th April 2024

Apologies: Jancis Henman, Henry and Hazel Rawlins, Cecilia D'Arcy and Trevor Tucker.

Attendees: Maureen Sturgess, Zoe and Mark Lloyd-Price, Peter Vasey, Becky Rawlins, Alison Rawlins, Andy Mitchenall, Sam and Andrew Smith, Robert Henman, Gary Rowland, Vera Heaphy, Paige Brazier, Faye Townley-Berry, Richard and Alex Parsons, Kat Gallagher, Sally Pearson and Tracey Glibbery.

The previous meeting notes of 18th April 2023 were approved.

Election of Officers:

- Tracey Glibbery was re-elected as Chair.
- Katarinie Gallagher was re-elected as Clerk/Secretary.
- Sally Pearson was re-elected as Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report for the village Social Fund: These were shared and approved at the meeting. Sally talked through the income/costs for the past year plus the predicted significant costs for the rest of the financial year.

Sally emphasised that we must keep fundraising to keep our funds in a healthy state. Coffee mornings have proven to be one of the easiest (and enjoyable) ways of raising money. They can typically raise £150-300 each event.

Sally has made progress as a water meter for the hall will be installed next week. This will help save village funds.

We thank Paige Brazier for agreeing to audit the accounts for the village.

Village hall repairs and upkeep: Tracey outlined the need to replace the hall soffit boards as the original wooden soffits have been there since the hall was built in 1964. Matt Western (in the village) has kindly offered to install the new soffits for the cost of parts only. Volunteers will probably be needed to help with manual labour. Likely to be started in late May/June.

Locks will be placed on both bathroom doors, to prevent random use of the facilities by passers-by during the day (and therefore need cleaning). Kat to investigate.

A new post is needed to put up the gate which has fallen down at the back of the hall. Alison and Becky volunteered George and Robert to put the new post in.

We are currently researching hall hire costs so that we can publish our own sensible rates and try to promote more use of the hall (via posters, online, putting notices in schools, etc). Improving the acoustics will be considered at some stage and will need some investment in materials.

Fundraising activities: The coffee mornings have been a good success – from a fund raising and

community angle. More volunteers are needed to run these. We will be asking for more dates and volunteers but also recognise that not everyone can make a work daytime event. Weekend events are more tricky to generate attendance, but we will probably combine one with a defib training session.

Tracey stated that we are not doing jumble sales as the same few people turn up to help and we seem to be taking everyone's jumble out and often back into the hall. We may consider a table top or car boot event so that everyone can manage their own jumble. To be considered further. Kat made the point that unfortunately only the same few people help at fund raising events and we need more people to help in future.

Paige suggested having a quiz night, perhaps on a Thursday or Friday night. Thursday 27th June 2024 was chosen and will be communicated within the village.

Defibrillator: The code for the machine was given out again, but everyone was reminded that the Ambulance Service (via 999 call) would give the code anyway. We are not publishing the code on the machine for fear of vandalism/theft.

Training will be arranged by Kat with Jenna Plank (hospital doctor) – for in-person training at the hall. A link to the British Heart Foundation online training for CPR and defibs was given out on the agenda – and here again: <https://www.bhf.org.uk/revivr>

Tracey stated that a weekly check is made on the machine (green flashing light) and that ongoing costs will be needed e.g. new battery. But not a huge cost.

We thank Andy Mitchenall again for installing the defib. It's much appreciated and saved our funds.

Matters arising

Fingerpost signs in the village. The two fingerpost signs at both ends of Church Road have been reported via the MyWilts App. Many attempts via writing/email have failed in the past so hopefully this approach works. The sign at the top of Brigmerston sign incorrectly states Milston above Brigmerston, and this needs swapping. The sign at Milston has been down for years.

Road speeds on the Back Lane: Everyone agreed (as per last year) that the speed on the Back Lane (the C32) across the top of each end of Church Road is very dangerous. The Back Lane legal limit is 60mph which is totally inappropriate for the width and nature of the lane. Tracey noted that we tried to use the new Rawlins drive being built just off the Lane as a reason to put in a speed limit but was advised it won't be successful. Sam raised that Netheravon is trialling a new speed limit along the A345. Tracey will contact Ian Blair-Pilling (their Councillor) about this but it's believed this is due to the built up nature of that stretch. We discussed having signs indicating a Concealed Road or maybe Pedestrians Crossing (at both ends of Church Road). Tracey to ask Ian how to best proceed.

Church Road Maintenance. Sam Smith raised this, noting that as a village we collectively pay £115,000 in Council Tax and that more maintenance should be provided. That amount is spread across all services, but we discussed the need to be more actively engaged with the Parish Steward. A note about the role of the Parish Steward was issued by the team. Tracey asked for everyone to email her or Kat stating what their priorities are for maintenance in the village. We will then work together to prioritise our needs and ensure the Parish Steward focuses on these. It's currently unclear about the time we get allocated as a village per month.

A village 'tidy up' has been agreed as a good community activity, with refreshments afterwards. Activities would include litter picking and tidying up the village e.g. the hedge area between the lane and the Croft green (currently has old orange plastic and other items entangled). To be suggested over the summer – perhaps for a weekend morning.

The cutting of the grass outside the hall and within the Croft was discussed. Andy Mitchenall has kindly done this in the past but we can't expect one person to continue. We couldn't agree a rota at the meeting so we will ask for volunteers.

Neighbourhood Watch: A reminder that Kat Gallagher is the village representative.

Village website: A reminder that we have a village website, which was started in Covid to help with communications. Tracey will revive it and will update with all the recent meeting notes and agendas. Villagers can advertise events/local business info. <https://www.milstonandbrigmerston.co.uk/> Sam offered to help with updates.

Local elections. The hall will be used all day on 2nd May for the Police Commissioner elections.

Any other business:

Mark Lloyd-Price, on behalf of St Mary's Milston PCC, wanted it noted that the church is very grateful for the receipt of the Precept each year and also a big thank you to the farming families who manage the hedge cutting at the church and surroundings.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

**** ENDS ****

I hereby certify these notes are a true and accurate record of the AGM of Milston Parish Social Fund Meeting held on 24th April 2024.

Chair:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Clerk/Secretary

Name:

Signature:

Date: